

Congress Hall
Beach and Congress Streets
Cape May
Cape May County
New Jersey

HABS No. NJ-744

HABS
NJ
5-CAP
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

RECEIVED
FOLLOWS

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE New Jersey	COUNTY Cape May	TOWN OR VICINITY Cape May
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Congress Hall		HABS NO. NJ-744
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Beach and Congress Streets		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1879	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) J. F. Meyer	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) An excellent example of a mid-19th century hotel, the Congress Hall hosted many notable visitors, including several presidents, notably Benjamin Harrison, who established executive offices there in 1891.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Second Empire features		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) L-shaped, one wing 20 bays x 3 bays, the other wing 17 bays x 3 bays; 3-1/2 stories; 3-story veranda; mansard roof		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Veranda supported by square wooden columns with decorated capitals and brackets; iron balconies on 2nd floor; several 1st-story windows convert to doors and open onto veranda; gabled dormers with decorative trim		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Bassett, William B. <u>Historic American Buildings Survey of New Jersey</u> . 1977.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Druscilla J. Null, HABS		DATE 8/12/84

ADDENDUM TO
CONGRESS HALL
Beach and Congress Streets
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HABS No. NJ-744

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XEROGRAPHIC COPIES OF COLOR TRANSPARENCIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
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Washington, D.C. 20013